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TOKYO 141-0032 JAPANTELECOPIER : (03)5745-0640  
INTERNATIONAL : +81-3-57450640BY FAX and Original BY AirMAILTokyo, July 27, 2005ATTN TO: Wankui DI, Esq.  
COOPER & DUNHAM LLP.  
1185 Avenue of the Americas,  
New York, N.Y. 10036  
U.S.A.

## CONFIRMATION

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/030,338  
Your Ref: PIZS1146A  
Sony Ref: S01P0483CN00  
Our Ref: S835CN

Dear Mr. Wankui DI:

Thank you for your letter of June 8, 2005 regarding the above-referenced application.

We are enclosing herewith a copy of Sony comments describing the purpose of this application and US agent's proposed Amendment, both of which were made for corresponding US application. Although the US case has different cited references from the CN case, the information would be helpful. Could you please modify the current claims with reference to the US case so as to clarify the purpose of this application, and prepare and file a suitable response and a reexamination no later than August 13, 2005. If you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact us.

We would like you to keep us informed of further developments and appreciate your kind cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours

*Shigeo Tanabe*  
Shigemoto TANABE  
TANABE PATENT OFFICE

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*Shigeo Tanabe*  
Shigemoto TANABE  
TANABE PATENT OFFICE

Encl.

S01P0483US00

The main purpose of this application is to provide a magnetic head having a flat surface FH1 and a rotary head drum having a window WD1 placed within the cylindrical surface of the head drum (not on the edge of the cylindrical surface of the head drum) capable of producing sufficient head to tape contact using the negative pressure mechanism.

We think that the expression "a smooth flat surface with a concave channel located beyond an edge of said surface" may miss-lead the Examiner, for the channel Ch1 is located between the head FH1 and the window WD1 and not placed on the head surface. (See Figs. 1 and 7) So, please review Claim 2 to clearly express the embodiment described in Figs. 1 and 7.

Also, we think that the expression "a smooth flat surface or a smooth curved surface having a curvature grater than a curvature of a rotary drum" may miss-lead the Examiner, for this surface means a open space area of the window WD1 or a surface made by the window WD1 and the tape MT having the air film when the rotary drum is rotated. So, please review Claim 4 to clearly express that "the magnetic head having a flat surface or a smooth curved surface having a curvature grater than the curvature of the rotary drum is placed within the cylindrical drum surface, and the head gap (head element HE1) is placed in a range where the magnetic tape MT is close to the minimum distance (in non-contact state having rising amount flo) capable of producing mutual magnetic recording or reproducing". (See Figs. 1 and 7.)

In cited US 2002/0080533 A1, Ozue et al describes the magnetic head having a sliding face being a concave shape from the head surface, but in our application, head surface has only a smooth flat surface or a smooth curved surface having a curvature grater than the curvature of the rotary drum and have no concave on it.

Please make one more effort in amending the claims suitable to overcome the Examiner's opinion of rejection and in making these claims in allowable condition.

Best regards. Hiroyuki Suzukawa

E-mail address : Hiroyuki.Suzukawa@jp.sony.com

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July 12, 2005

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Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 141-0032  
Japan

Re: U.S. Patent Appln. Serial No. 09/980,887

Your Ref.: S835US

Sony Ref.: S01P0483US00

Our Ref.: 450108-03119

Dear Mr. Tanabe:

Thank you for your letter of June 25, 2005.

In accordance with your instructions, we enclose our second **proposed** Amendment for responding to the Final Office Action that issued in this application on April 19, 2005.

We amended independent claims 2 and 4. We believe that this proposed Amendment will not be entered since it adds limitations to the claims. Therefore, we recommend filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) with the Amendment. This will force the Examiner to enter the Amendment After Final and continue prosecution based on the amended claims. We will file an RCE with the Amendment unless instructed otherwise.

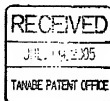
Please advise us if the proposed Amendment is acceptable. We will not file the proposed Amendment until you authorize us to do so.

Please note that the due date for responding to the Office Action is **July 19, 2005**, but can be extended on a month-by-month basis to October 19, 2005, upon paying extension-of-time fees.

Sincerely yours,

*Thomas F. Presson*  
Thomas F. Presson  
TFP:dxb

Enclosure



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PATENT  
450108-03119IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Jun Takayama, et al.  
Serial No. : 09/980,887  
For : MAGNETIC HEAD, RECORDING/REPRODUCING  
METHOD FOR TAPE MAGNETIC RECORDING  
MEDIUM, AND ROTARY MAGNETIC HEAD  
MECHANISM  
Filed : October 29, 2001  
Examiner : Mark S. Blouin  
Art Unit : 2653  
Confirmation No. : 1946

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Thomas F. Presson, Reg. No. 41,442

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

Date of Signature

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on April 19, 2005, having a three-month statutory period for response set to expire on July 19, 2005, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to amend the above-identified application as follows.

PATENT  
450108-03119

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.